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Letter dated 31 May 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Myanmar to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to inform you that, on 31 May 2018, the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population of the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the United Nations Development Programme and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees initialled a memorandum of understanding to assist the Government of Myanmar in implementing the arrangement on the return of displaced persons from Rakhine State, signed between the Governments of Myanmar and Bangladesh on 23 November 2017. The United Nations agencies will cooperate with the Government for the repatriation of the displaced persons, who have been duly verified so that they can return voluntarily in safety and in dignity. The memorandum of understanding will be signed shortly.

I also have the honour to bring to your attention that the Government of Myanmar has decided to establish an independent commission of enquiry as part of its national initiative to address reconciliation, peace and stability and development in Rakhine State. The independent commission will investigate the violation of human rights and related issues following the terrorist attacks by the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army. The commission will consist of three members, including an international personality. It will be assisted by national and international legal and technical experts.

In this connection, I have the honour to enclose herewith the following official announcements of the Government of Myanmar:

1. Press release of the Ministry of the Office of the State Counsellor, dated 31 May 2018, on the memorandum of understanding on assistance to the repatriation process of displaced persons from Rakhine State (see annex I);

2. Announcement 3/2018 of the Office of the President, dated 31 May 2018, on the establishment of an independent commission of enquiry (see annex II).

I would be most grateful if the present letter and its annexes could be circulated to the members of the Security Council as a document of the Council.

(*Signed*) Hau Do **Suan**

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Annex I to the letter dated 31 May 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Myanmar to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Ministry of the Office of the State Counsellor, press release

Government of Myanmar and United Nations agencies initial memorandum of understanding on assistance to the repatriation process of displaced persons from Rakhine State

31 May 2018

1. On 31st of May 2018, the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population (MoLIP) of the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) initialed the Memorandum of Understanding to assist the government of Myanmar in Implementing the "Arrangement on Return of Displaced Persons from Rakhine State", signed between the Governments of Myanmar and Bangladesh on 23 November 2017. The UN Agencies will cooperate with the Government for the repatriation of the displaced persons, who have been duly verified so that they can return voluntarily in safety and in dignity.

2. The UNDP and UNHCR have been invited to take part in various stages of return and resettlement, and to support access to livelihoods through the design and implementation of community based intervention.

3. The Government of Myanmar had been discussing the MoU with UNDP and UNHCR since February 2018. The discussions have resulted in the MoU which will be signed soon.

Annex II to the letter dated 31 May 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Myanmar to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Office of the President, Announcement 3/2018

Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar will establish an independent commission of enquiry

31 May 2018

The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has decided to establish an Independent Commission of Enquiry as part of its national initiative to address reconciliation, peace, stability and development in Rakhine. This decision has also taken into consideration the Interim Recommendations of the Advisory Board for the Committee for the Implementation of the Recommendations on Rakhine State. The Independent Commission will investigate the violation of human rights and related issues following the terrorist attacks by ARSA.

The Commission will consist of three members including an international personality. It will be assisted by national and international legal and technical experts.